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ABSTRACT

Noting that by 15 years of age, boys are three times more likely than girls to die from all causes combined, but especially from accidents, violence, and suicide, this book suggests that boys have special needs and offers suggestions for effective parenting. Chapter 1, "What Is It with Boys?," provides an overview. Chapter 2, "The Three Stages of Boyhood," discusses boys' development from birth to age 6, from age 6 to 14, and from age 14 to adult. Chapter 3, "Testosterone!," discusses the production of testosterone in boys and its effect on their behavior. Chapter 4, "How Boys' and Girls' Brains Differ," explores the difference in brain development between males and females and the implications of these differences. Chapter 5, "What Dads Can Do," stresses the importance of the father-son relationship and offers parenting suggestions for fathers. Chapter 6, "Mothers and Sons," discusses the importance of the mother-son relationship and offers suggestions to mothers about rearing boys. Chapter 7, "Developing a Healthy Sexuality," suggests that boys need warmth and positive support, good practical information, and a chance to grow up before they become sexually active. Chapter 8, "A Revolution in Schooling," discusses the problems boys have in school, including a lack of male role models. Chapter 9, "Boys and Sports," discusses the importance of sports in boys' lives and the important life lessons that can be learned from participating in sports. Chapter 10, "A Community Challenge," explores how a whole community can support boys. The book concludes with an appendix that discusses attention deficit disorder in boys. (LPP)

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